

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Restriction/Election Requirement:

In the Office Action, the Examiner has required an election be made under 35 U.S.C. §121 among six groups among six (6) groups of claims as follows:

Group I: Claims 40-44, 71 are drawn to a BLE fusion protein and a method of purifying a BLE fusion protein.

Group II: Claims 45-59 are drawn to a probe and a method using the probe.

Group III: Claims 60-67 are drawn to a purification media comprising a large surface to volume area comprising a target surface presenting one or more analyte capture moieties comprising an antibiotic from the bleomycin family.

Group IV: Claims 68-70 are drawn to a method for generating forms of an insoluble protein comprising the steps of i) generating a library of protein variants; and ii) selecting colonies for the presence of a soluble protein by expressing the protein as a BLE fusion protein and selecting an antibiotic from the bleomycin family.

Group V: Claims 72-76 are drawn to a method of identifying the cellular localization of a protein.

Group VI: Claim 77 is drawn to a kit for the production of an array comprising a BLE vector and a surface derivatized with an antibiotic from the bleomycin family.

In response, Applicants elect **Group I**, claims 40-44 and 71 drawn to a BLE fusion protein and a method of purifying a BLE fusion protein. Applicants note that the election is made for the purpose of examination of the claims only, and that Applicants maintain the right to have the full scope of the claims in Groups II-VI as written, examined on the merits in future applications.

It is believed that Applicants are fully compliant with the restriction/election requirement as set forth by the Examiner. Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request prompt examination in the application. If there are any questions regarding this Response, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Applicants believe that this Response is timely and no additional fees are due with the filing of this Response. However, if any additional fees are required or if any funds are due, the USPTO is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account Number: **50-0311**, Customer Number: **35437**, Reference Number: **27353-513-US1**.

Respectfully submitted,

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